RECORD

## Revised United States Standard Certificate of Death

[Approved by U. S. Gengus and American Public Health Association.]

Statement of Occupation. - Precise statement of occupation is very important, so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits can be known. The question applies to each and every person, irrespective of age. For many occupations a single word or term on the first line will be sufficient, e. g., Farmer or Planter, Physician, Compositor, Architect, Locomotive engineer, Civil engineer, Stationary fireman, etc. But in many cases, especially in industrial employments, it is necessary to know (a) the kind of work and also (b) the nature of the husiness or industry, and therefore an additional line is provided for the , latter statement; it should be used only when needed. As examples: (a) Spinner, (b) Cotton mill; (a) Salesman, (b) Grocery; (a) Foreman, (b) Automobile factory. The material worked on may form part of the eeoond statement. Never return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification, as Day laborer, Farm laborer, Laborer - Coal mine, etc. Women at home, who are engaged in the duties of the household only (not paid Housekeepers who receive a definite salary), may be entered as Housewife, Housework or At home, and children, not gainfully employed, as At, school or Alf. home. Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service for wages, as Servant, Cook, Housemaid, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on. account of the DISEASE OAUSING DEATH, state occupation at beginning of illness. If retired from busi-; ness, that fact may be indicated thus: Farmer (retired, 6 yrs.) For persons who have no occupation whatever, write None.

Statement of cause of Death.—Name, first, the disease causing death (the primary affection with respect to time and causation,) using always the same accepted term for the same disease. Examples: Cerebrospinal fever (the only definite synonym is "Epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis"); Diphtheria (avoid use of "Croup"); Taphoid fever (never report

"Typhoid pneumonia"); Lobar pneumonia; Bronchopneumenia ("Pneumonia," unqualified, is indefinite); Tuberculasis of lungs, meninges, peritoneum, etc., Carcinoma, Sarcoma, etc., of ..... (name origin; "(Cancer" is less definite; avoid use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasms); Measles; Whooping cough; Chronic valvular theart disease; Chronic interstitial nephritis, etc. The contributory (secondary or intercurrent) affection need not he stated unless important. Example: Measles (disease causing death), 29 ds.; Bronchopneumonia (secondary), 10 ds. Never report mere symptoms or terminal conditions, such as "Asthenia," "Anemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.,) "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Hemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uremia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from tchildbirth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL septicemia," "PUERPERAL : peritonitis," etc. State cause for which surgical operation was undertaken. For -VIOLENT-DEATES-State-MEANS-OF-INJUST-and-qualify AS ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, OF HOMICIDAL, OF AS probably such, if impossible to determine definitely. Examples: Accidental drowning; struck by railway train-accident; Revolver wound of headhomicide; Poisoned by carbolic acid-probably suicide. The nature of the injury, as fracture of skull, and consequences (e. g., sepsis, tetanus) may be stated under the head of "Contributory." (Recommendations on statement of cause of death, approved by Committee on Nomenclature of the American Medical Association.)

Nors.—Individual offices may add to above list of undesirable terms and refuse to accept certificates, containing them. Thus the form in use in New York City states: "Certificates will be returned for additional information, which, give any of the following diseases, without explanation, as the sole cause of death: Abortion, cellulitis, childbirth, convuisions, hemorrhage, gangrene, gastritis, ergsipelas, meningitis, miscarriage, necrosis, peritonitis, phiebitis, pyemia, septicomia, tetaque." But general adoption of the minimum list suggested will mork vast improvement, and its scope can be extended at a state date.